

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6613

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 2840

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US

SUBJECT: GOI MOVES AGAINST LEAKS REGARDING ARAB-ISRAELI
NEGOTIATIONS

1. JERUSALEM POST MAY 12 NOTES IN GENERALIZED ARTICLE
THAT PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS TAKEN MEASURES IN RECENT
DAYS TO BLOCK LEAKS FROM CABINET AND OTHER POLICY
MAKING FORUMS. FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THIS
MATTER HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO US BY WELL INFORMED AND
RELIABLE JOURNALIST SOURCE.

2. HAARETZ DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT MATI GOLAN HAS
WRITTEN BOOK ON ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS AFTER OCTOBER
1973 WAR, WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON U.S.-ISRAEL CONTACTS.
GOLAN HAD RECEIVED FROM UNIDENTIFIED GOI SOURCE
EXTENSIVE DOCUMENTATION INCLUDING TRANSCRIPTS OF MEETINGS
BETWEEN SECRETARY AND SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS. THIS
DOCUMENTATION REFERRED TO USG CONTACTS WITH BOTH THE
MEIR AND RABIN GOVERNMENTS.

3. GOLAN, AFTER SUBMITTING TEXT TO ISRAELI CENSOR,
TRANSMITTED IT SOMETIME DURING WEEK OF MAY 5-10 TO
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. RABIN, AFTER READING TEXT,
CONVOKED SPECIAL MEETINGS OF CABINET, KNESSET,
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY COMMITTEE AND EDITORS
ASSOCIATION, AND INFORMED THESE BODIES ABOUT THE
LEAKS.

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4. RABIN HAS INSISTED THAT GOLAN DESIST FROM PUBLICATION OF BOOK AND THAT HE RETURN ALL DOCUMENTATION IMMEDIATELY TO GOI.

5. ISRAELI PUBLISHER HAS WASHED HIS HANDS OF MATTER, AND ADVISED GOLAN TO COMPLY WITH RABIN'S DEMAND. GOLAN HAS ALSO SHOWN EXCERPT OF BOOK TO UNIDENTIFIED US PUBLISHER DURING JERUSALEM BOOK FAIR TWO WEEKS AGO. PUBLISHER REPORTEDLY OFFERED HIM \$100,000 FOR US PUBLICATION RIGHTS.

6. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER GOLAN HAS COMPLIED WITH PRIME MINISTER'S REQUEST.

7. SOURCE INFORMS US THAT AFFAIR HAS ROCKED GOI. HE COMPARED ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT TO THAT OF PENTAGON PAPERS. VELIOTES

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